



## Conductor Bar Selection



### Determining Ampere Load

The conductor selected must be large enough to carry the necessary ampere load safely without undue heating. To compute the ampere load, proceed as follows:

1. List the horsepower of all motors used in the application.
2. Determine the voltage and type of current that will feed the conductor. For example: 230 VDC 2 wire; 460 VAC 3 phase; etc.
3. Refer to the Horsepower Conversion Table on page 3 and convert the horsepower to amperes.
4. Prepare the ampere load figure that will be used to size the conductors as follows:

List the full load ampere rating of each motor used on the crane or monorail unit. Determine the duty cycle from the following paragraphs and apply the corresponding factor.

**Light Duty — Class A and B Crane Service**  
 Standby or infrequent use. Up to two motors started at a time. Two to five lifts per hour. Use a factor of 90% of the calculated ampere load.

**Average Duty — Class C Crane Service**  
 Moderate use during the work day. Five to ten lifts per hour. Not over 50% of the lift at rated capacity. Use a factor of 100% of the calculated ampere load.

**Heavy Duty — Class D Crane Service**  
 Used continually during the work day and usually for more than one shift. Loads of 50% of rated capacity or more handled constantly during the work period. Use a factor of 110% of the calculated ampere load.

**Severe Duty — Class E and F Crane Service**  
 Used continually for two or more work shifts a day for loads approaching 100% of capacity. Use a factor of 120% of the calculated ampere load. Due to the mechanical considerations on severe duty use, contact the factory engineering group when selecting the conductor system for this application.

5. If the conductors are to be located where the ambient air temperature is unusually high, the current carrying capacity of the conductor is reduced. Multiply the current capacity of the selected conductor by the derating factor in the following table.

Temperature Derating Table

Ambient Air Temperature	Derating Factor
100°F	95%
130°F	75%
160°F*	50%

\* At this ambient temperature it will be necessary to use the higher rated conductor cover, XHT rated at 280°F. Use of XHT cover at 160°F allows for full ampacity at that temperature.

### Determining Voltage Drop

According to CMAA, the voltage drop to the unit motors shall not be more than 3% from the power taps to the load at the farthest point on the conductor run. To determine the voltage drop use the appropriate formula in the following table.

Current Type	Formula
AC 3 phase 60 cycle	$V = L \times I \times Z \times 1.73$
AC 1 or 2 phase 60 cycle	$V = L \times I \times Z \times 2$
DC 2 wire system	$V = L \times I \times R \times 2$

- V = Voltage drop
- L = Distance from power feed to end of conductor
- I = Total amperes drawn as calculated from conversion charts
- Z = AC impedance
- R = DC resistance

See Conductor Engineering Data Table on page 4 for values of Z and R.  
 Divide voltage drop by system voltage to get the percent of voltage drop.  
 Maximum voltage drops that are 3% of various supply voltages are as follows:

Supply Voltage	Voltage Drop (V)
460 VAC	13.8
230 VAC or VDC	6.9
575 VAC	17.2

Volts lost that are equal to or less than the above values when using the formulas above will help in selecting the correct conductor.

### Conductor Selection Example

Given a 300 foot runway, power fed at the center, using 460 volt, 3 phase, 60 cycle power supplied to a bridge crane — there is a 40 h.p. hoist motor, a 20 h.p. bridge motor, and a 5 h.p. trolley motor. The operation is **Average Duty**. Ambient temperature varies from 50°F in winter to 90°F in summer on this **Indoor** installation.

#### Step 1 — Determining Ampere Load

See *National Electric Code article 610-14(e)* for determining motor loads where there are multiple motors on a single crane. Then from the Horse Power Conversion Table 460V column (right):

- 40 h.p. hoist motor — 52 amps @ 100% = 52 amps
- 20 h.p. bridge motor — 27 amps @ 50% = 13.5 amps
- 5 h.p. trolley motor — 7.6 amps @ 50% = 3.8 amps

**The total current load is 69.3 amperes.**

With Average Duty cycle, the current load is factored at 100%. Normal ambient conditions of 50°F to 90°F require no temperature derating. Selecting a 90 amp conductor caused a voltage drop of 4.3% using the formula. Since this is unsatisfactory, use a 110 amp conductor (FE-908) for Step 2.

#### Step 2 — Determining Voltage Drop

Use the AC 3 phase formula on page two.

- $V = L \times I \times Z \times 1.73$  where:
- L = 150 ft. (Distance to the end of the runway from the center power feed.)
- I = 69.3 amperes
- Z = .0008 for 110 amp conductor (From the Conductor Engineering Data Table, page 4.)
- 1.73 = 3 phase constant

$$V = 150 \times 69.3 \times .0008 \times 1.73 = 14.4 \text{ volts}$$

$$14.4/460 = 3.1\%$$

Since this voltage drop only occurs at the farthest end when two or more motors are started simultaneously, exceeding the 3% voltage drop goal by only 0.1% will not cause a problem.

**Horsepower Conversion Table**

h.p.	3 Phase AC — 60 Cycle Amperes			Direct Current Amperes
	230V	460V	575V	230V
1/2	2	1	.8	2.7
3/4	2.8	1.4	1.1	3.8
1	3.6	1.8	1.4	4.7
1-1/2	5.2	2.6	2.1	6.6
2	6.8	3.4	2.7	8.5
3	9.6	4.8	3.9	12.2
5	15.2	7.6	6.1	20
7-1/2	22	11	9	29
10	28	14	11	38
15	42	21	17	55
20	54	27	22	72
25	68	34	27	89
30	80	40	32	106
40	104	52	41	140
50	130	65	52	173
60	154	77	62	206
75	192	96	77	255
100	248	124	99	341
125	312	156	125	425
150	360	180	144	506
200	480	240	192	675

### Ampere Load Calculations for Multiple Units

For information about sizing ampere loads for multiple cranes on the same runway, see Article 610-14 (e) of the National Electrical Code for the demand factors. This article also covers additional loads on the bridge cranes other than motor loads.

### Induction Type Squirrel Cage and Wound Rotor Motors

The Horsepower Conversion Table is taken from the 1996 NEC Article 430. The values are for motors running at usual speeds with normal torque characteristics. Motors built for especially low speeds or high torques may require more running current, and multi-speed motors will have

full-load current varying with speed. In these cases, use the higher nameplate current rating.

The voltages listed are rated motor voltages. The current listed shall be permitted for system voltage ranges of 110 to 120, 220 to 240, 440 to 480, and 550 to 600 volts. Motors rated at 208 VAC should increase the 230 volt column figures by 10%.

For motors that are wound for single or double phase operation, use the nameplate rating. For older slip ring motors or models that have secondary windings be sure to obtain both primary and secondary current ratings. Secondary windings may also need separate conductors or cables when updating the electrification.

## Conductor Engineering Data Table

Conductor Bar No.	Description	Weight per 10' section lbs.	Ampere Rating		Coefficient of Linear Expansion per °F	Resistance Factor		Circular Mills
			Continuous	Intermittent*		AC (z) ohms/ft.	DC (R) ohms/ft.	
FE-758	Galvanized Steel	4.5	90	135	.000007	.0011	.00072	130,000
FE-908	Galvanized Steel	6.5	110	165	.000007	.0008	.0005	189,000
FE-1608	Stainless/Copper Laminate	6.5	250	350	.000008	.000144	.0001	188,000
FE-2008	Copper/Steel Laminate	6.25	250	350	.000008	.000142	.0001	189,000
FE-3008	Rolled Copper	6.75	350	530	.000009	.000085	.000058	188,000

\* Intermittent Service Rating is determined for one minute on, one minute off operation.

## Miscellaneous Applications

### Curves

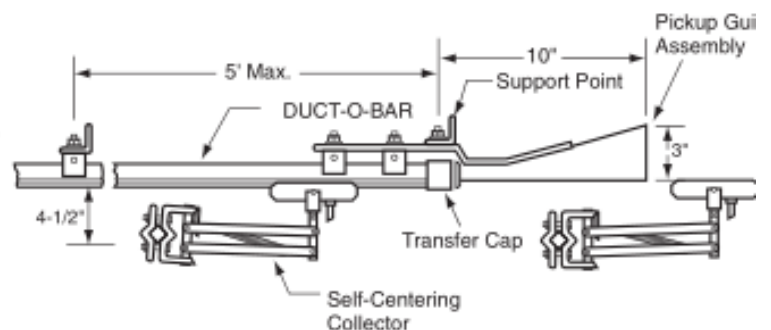
Duct-O-Bars<sup>®</sup>, except the Totally Enclosed System, can be bent to form curved sections without damaging the insulating cover or conductor. Bends with a five-foot radius or greater can be done in the field by using a fly wheel, monorail beam, or similar object to bend the conductor to approximately the necessary radius. Hangers used on curved sections must be placed at intervals of 2-1/2 feet maximum — and closer if required. Use B-100 cross bolt clamp type hangers and P-Series collectors.

The minimum spacing between conductors on curves is three inches.

For curves of five-foot radius or more, use five-inch collector shoes. For curves of less than five-foot radius use three-inch collector shoes; also consult the factory for additional information.

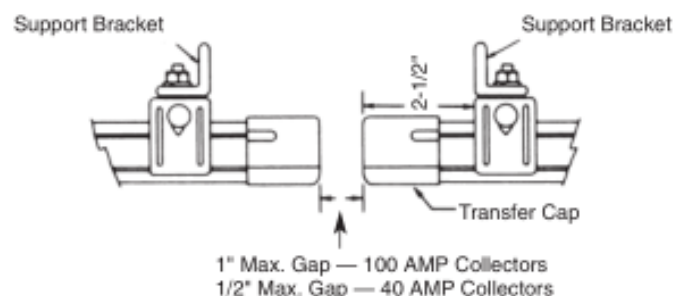
### Discontinuous Circuits

On discontinuous circuits a pickup guide assembly must be installed to ensure that the self-centering type collectors engage and disengage the conductor bar. The pickup guide (FE-2JNN3 is illustrated) must have its own support point.



### Interlocks, Switches, or Fixed Gaps

The maximum fixed gap occurring at interlocks is one-inch when using 100 amp P-Series collectors and 1/2 inch when using 40 amp collectors. Use transfer caps as shown to ensure that the collector brushes transfer evenly and smoothly. Also round both ends of the contact brushes to facilitate the transfer. Use clamp type hangers only. When both interlocks and curves of less than a four-foot radius are encountered, the tandem 40 amp collector is recommended.



### Other Special Applications

Consult the factory for recommendations on applications such as de-icing systems, totally enclosed systems, and other systems not covered here.

## Expansion Gaps

Expansion gaps should be placed at intervals determined by 1) the expansion rate of the metal in the conductor selected, and 2) the variation in temperature that will occur at the conductor location over a full year of operation.

### 1. Steel Conductor Systems

Given that steel conductors expand 1" for every 120' of runway with a temperature change of 100°F over a full year of operation, put the length of the runway and the maximum temperature change for the system to be used into the following formula:

$$\text{Total Steel Expansion (inches)} = X/120' \times Y/100^\circ\text{F}$$

where *X* is the runway length and *Y* is the 12 month temperature variation.

Example: A 450' long steel conductor (*X*) installed in a building with an indoor temperature change of 40°F (*Y*).

$$\text{Total Expansion} = 450'/120' \times 40^\circ\text{F}/100^\circ\text{F} = 1.5".$$

(See Section 3.)

### 2. Copper Conductor Systems

Given that copper conductors expand 1" for every 100' of runway over a 100°F temperature change at the conductor over a full year of operation, put the length of the runway and the maximum temperature change for the system to be used into the following formula:

$$\text{Total Copper Expansion (inches)} = X/100' \times Y/100^\circ\text{F}$$

Example: A 300' long copper conductor system (*X*) installed outdoors with an anticipated temperature fluctuation of 80°F (*Y*).

$$\text{Total Expansion} = 300'/100' \times 80^\circ\text{F}/100^\circ\text{F} = 2.4".$$

(See Section 3.)

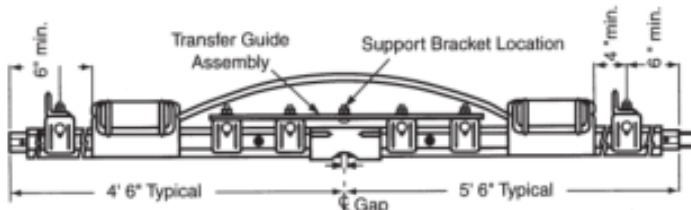
### 3. Determine the Number of Expansion Gap Assemblies

After calculating the actual expansion of the runway conductor system, use the following rule of thumb to pick the number of expansion gap assemblies:

- Under 1" of expansion, use no expansion assemblies. Install one anchor clamp set at the center of the conductor run.
- From 1" to 2" of expansion, use one expansion assembly in the center of the conductor run.
- From 2" to 4" of expansion, use two expansion assemblies. Locate them at 1/3 of the runway length in from each end.
- For systems with more than 4" of expansion, use one expansion gap assembly for each 2" of expansion.

### 4. Anchors

Anchor clamps are required at midpoint on all systems without expansion gaps and halfway between gaps and from gaps to the end of systems with multiple gaps. See the *Figure 8 Installation Instructions* on anchor locations.



*The maximum gap opening for all ten foot Figure 8 expansion gap assemblies is 1-3/4 inches.*

*Expansion assemblies are also required at building expansion joints.*

## Conductor Assembly Selection

Duct-O-Wire® Figure 8 Conductor Bars are furnished as assemblies consisting of a ten-foot long conductor bar rated at 600 volts, an insulating cover, splice cover, and connector pins or joint clamps as applicable.

The insulating cover must be appropriate for the environment — indoor, outdoor, or high temperature — in which the conductor is to operate.

Indoor systems are for use in ambient temperatures up to 160°F. They have an Orange PVC Insulating Cover. They are not recommended for outdoor use in direct sunlight.

Outdoor systems are for use in direct sunlight and ambient temperatures up to 160°F. They have a Gray PVC Insulating Cover with an ultraviolet additive.

High temperature systems are for use in ambient temperatures up to 280°F. They have a Yellow Polycarbonate Insulating Cover.

From the table to the right, you can select the basic (FE) conductor assembly with the appropriate bar and insulating cover for your application.

For information on other conductor assemblies, see page 12.

### Basic Figure 8 (FE) Conductor Assemblies

10 ft. Lengths		Assembly Catalog No.		
Conductor Bar No.	Weight Pounds	Indoor Use	Outdoor Use	High Temp. Use
FE-758	4.5	FE-758-2	FE-758-2-SC	FE-758-2XHT
FE-908	6.5	FE-908-2	FE-908-2-SC	FE-908-2XHT
FE-1608	6.5	FE-1608-2	FE-1608-2-SC	FE-1608-2XHT
FE-2008	6.25	FE-2008-2	FE-2008-2-SC	FE-2008-2XHT
FE-3008	6.75	FE-3008-2	FE-3008-2-SC	FE-3008-2XHT



Cross-sectional drawing of Basic Figure 8 (FE) Conductor Assembly